



STATE OF DELAWARE  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
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**TO:** All Users of the Delaware Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices

**FROM:** Peter Haag, P.E., P.T.O.E.   
Chief of Traffic Engineering

**DATE:** July 14, 2023

**SUBJECT:** Pictorial Radar Speed Signs – Changeable Message Signs

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Section 1A.07 of the Delaware Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (DE MUTCD Revision 3) states:

**Option:**

01A (DE Revision) With approval of the Delaware Department of Transportation Chief Engineer, traffic control devices and applications that do not comply with one or more standard statements in this manual may be used, if it has been determined based on engineering judgment that such devices/applications follow the basic precepts of traffic control devices (incorporating design elements that promote the ability of the road user to perceive, comprehend, and react as intended) and are determined to be in the best interests of Delaware's road users.

Accordingly, DelDOT is providing the following Option, Guidance, Standard and Support statements regarding Pictorial Radar Speed Signs:

**Option:**

01 Pictorial Radar Speed Signs may be used along Delaware roadways in conjunction with a regulatory speed limit sign, to dynamically display the actual speeds of approaching vehicles.

**Standard:**

02 **The design and location of Pictorial Radar Speed Signs on DelDOT-maintained roadways shall be approved by DelDOT Traffic Engineering prior to installation within the right-of-way.**

**Standard:**

03 **Pictorial Radar Speed Signs shall have a full matrix display that is 12" or 18" in height.**



July 14, 2023

*Guidance:*

*04 The signs should be programmed to display the actual speeds of approaching vehicles, a smiling face if the approaching vehicle is traveling at or below the posted speed limit, and a frowning face if the approaching vehicle is traveling above the posted speed limit.*

*Guidance:*

*05 If a Pictorial Radar Speed Sign is installed, the legend YOUR SPEED XX MPH or such similar legend should be displayed. The color of the changeable message legend should be a yellow or red legend on a black background.*

*Guidance:*

*06 When installed, Pictorial Radar Speed Signs should not be placed within curves.*



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